

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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P R 110915Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3474

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 4917

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS NAVAL FORCE REDUCTION PLANS

REF: A. THE HAGUE 4558 DTG 091453Z SEP 75

B. USNATO 4815 DTG 041751Z SEP 75

C. USNATO 4490 DTG 251745Z AUG 75

D. BONN 13847 DTG 251744Z AUG 75

E. LONDON 13408 DTG 291530Z AUG 75

SUMMARY: WE HAVE CONTACTED FRG DELEGATION BUT NOT UK DELEGATION,  
TO ASCERTAIN STATUS OF OUR REQUESTS FOR BILATERAL DEMARCHES  
BETWEEN THOSE TWO ALLIES AND NETHERLANDS ON PLANNED MARTIME FORCE  
SECRET

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REDUCTIONS. FRG INSISTS AN APPROACH WILL BE MADE. WE RECOMMEND  
ONE MORE TRY, IN BOTH BONN AND LONDON, TO FOSTER STRONG DEMARCHES,  
IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SOLID FOUNDATION FOR ALLIED RESISTANCE IN  
DPC TO THESE REDUCTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. ACTING ON INFORMATION PROVIDED REF A, MISSION OFFICER CALLED ON FRG DELEGATION OFFICER (CAPT WELZ) SEPTEMBER 10, TO ASCERTAIN STATUS OF FRG BILATERAL REPRESENTATIONS ON NETHERLANDS FORCE REDUCTION PLANS (REFS B AND C). FRG DEFAD BGEN SCHUNEMANN JOINED DISCUSSION. BOTH SAID THAT DEMARCHE WOULD BE MADE, THOUGH LEVEL AND TIMING NOT YET DETERMINED IN BONN. SCHUNEMANN STATED THAT PRESENTATION OF BUDGET TO BUNDESTAG HAD KEPT BONN PREOCCUPIED LATELY, BUT THAT DEMARCHE WILL BE MADE, AND THAT IT IS "POSSIBLE, IF NOT LIKELY" THAT IT WILL BE MADE "AT HIGHEST LEVEL". HE REITERATED POINT MADE IN EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH US DEPUTY DEFENSE ADVISOR SEIGLE (REF C) CONCERNING POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH DUTCH COALITION GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE IN REDUCING PUBLIC EXPENDITURES WITHOUT INCLUDING DEFENSE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT DUTCH APPEAR TO BE ASKING NATO TO PRODUCE A SOLID FRONT TO COUNTER ARGUMENTS OF THOSE WHO FAVOR DEFENSE REDUCTIONS. CAPTAIN WELZ CONTACTED US LATER IN THE DAY TO INFORM US THAT PAPER FAVORING AN FRG APPROACH TO NETHERLANDS HAD BEEN PREPARED BY MOD BONN AND IS PRESENTLY AT MFA AWAITING ACTION. COMMENT: WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO INSTRUCT AMEMBASSY BONN TO INQUIRE AS TO STATUS OF FRG DEMARCHE. WE BELIEVE FRG BILATERAL INVOLVEMENT IS CRUCIAL TO A SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE; A FOLLOW-ON TO CONTACT REPORTED REF D MAY SERVE TO RETORE MOMENTUM. END COMMENT.

2. WE HAVE NOT CONTACTED UK DELEGATION TO ATTEMPT REVERSAL OF DECISION REPORTED REF E. COMMENT: BASED ON FACT THAT NETHERLANDS APPEARS TO BE EXPECTING A UK DEMARCHE, WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO INSTRUCT AMEMBASSY LONDON TO MAKE ONE MORE TRY TO GET UK TO APPROACH NETHERLANDS, EVEN AT LOW LEVEL. END COMMENT.

3. IS HAS INFORMED US THAT DPC DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE WILL TAKE PLACE SEPTEMBER 17. A WRAP-UP OF ACTIVITIES TO DATE ON NETHERLANDS PLAN, TOGETHER WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OUR GUIDANCE, WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL.  
BRUCE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO BONN  
BRUSSELS  
COPENHAGEN  
THE HAGUE

LONDON  
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